

ILLINOIS, DIXON

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ILLINOIS TOWNS

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# Illinois

## Illinois Towns

### Dixon

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



# VCHS

A little more than a year ago, the conitors and workmen once more moved in, ready to again remodel and modernize this famous

Built in 1837, the hotel was remodeled in 1867 when the fourth story and mansard roof were added. By 1915 more rooms were needed and an annex to the south was built, which, in 1953 was again re-

On the register of the old Nachusa House are the names of some of the world's most famous people who came from all walks of life to find comfort and gracious hospitality. Wh 118 years of housing travelers and resident guests behind it, the Nachusa House is one of the old landmarks of the middle west.

SCORT GUESTS

FAVORS FOR THE LADIES---

FROM 9

THE

You Are In

SUNDAY, J

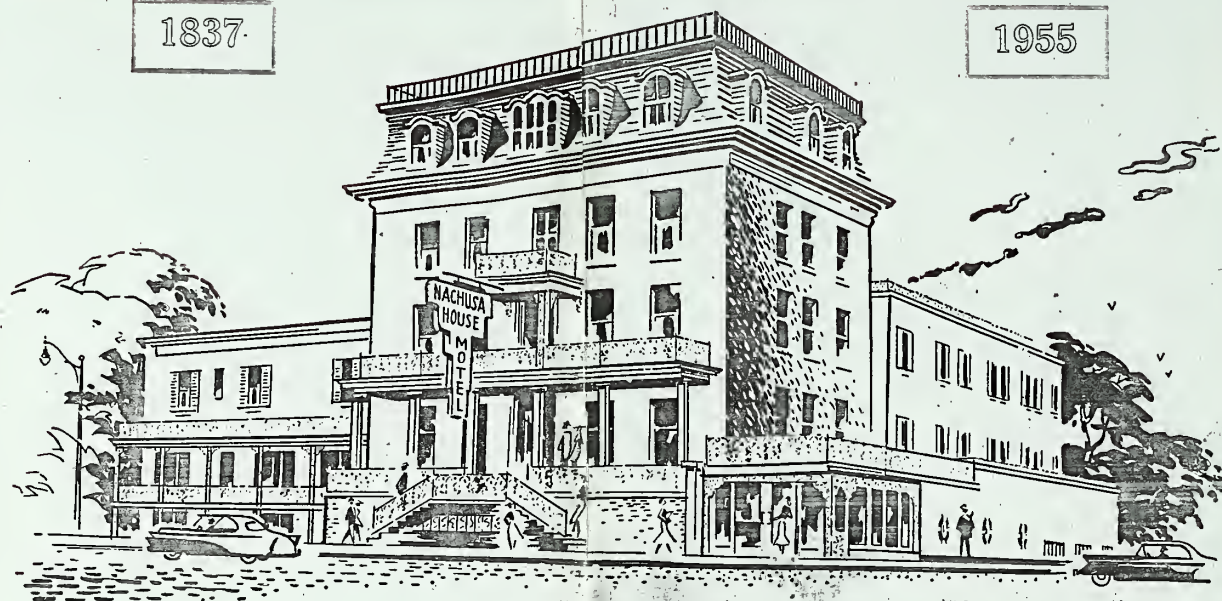
PROUDL





1837

1955



THE NEW

NACHUSA

PROUDLY OPENS

SUNDAY, JUNE 19th, 1955

You Are Invited to Attend

THE OPEN HOUSE

FROM 9 A. M. to 9 P. M.

FAVORS FOR THE LADIES...GUIDES WILL BE AVAILABLE TO  
ESCORT GUESTS THROUGH THE HOTEL

On the register of the old Nachusa House are the names of some of the world's most famous people who came from all walks of life to find comfort and gracious hospitality. After 118 years of housing travelers and resident guests behind it, the Nachusa House is one of the old landmarks of the middle west.

Built in 1837, the hotel was remodeled in 1867 when the fourth story and mansard roof were added. By 1915 more rooms were needed and an annex to the south was built, which in 1953 was again remodeled into a "twentieth century" "In-Town-Motel".

A little more than a year ago, the contractors and workmen once more moved in, ready to again remodel and modernize this famous

old landmark and to restore its original charm and beauty. Today, emerges the NEW and beautiful Nachusa House, ready for another century of "gracious living and charming hospitality."

No expense has been spared to bring to Dixon this fine, up-to-date modern hotel. A glance through this special edition will show you just a few of the many, many changes that have been made. To everyone, we extend a cordial invitation to attend the open house this Sunday. Come, and see the spacious lobby, the new and colorful "Trail Room", the large air conditioned kitchen, with its all stainless steel equipment. These and many other wonderful surprises await you when you see the new ...

NACHUSA HOUSE

*Sutter*

March 18, 1981

Mr. John L. Sutter, President  
LNSC of Peoria  
8th Floor, Peoria Savings Plaza  
331 Fulton Street  
Peoria, Illinois 61602

Dear Mr. Sutter:

We are pleased to have the information on Nachusa House, as we try to maintain files on the many places Lincoln visited in his life. If I recall correctly, I am to return the photographs to you, and I do so herein.

Sincerely yours,

Mark E. Neely, Jr.

MEN/jaf

Enc. - his photographs





On the register of the old NACHUSA HOUSE are the names of some of the world's most famous people who came from all walks of life to find comfort and gracious hospitality. With 143 years of housing travelers and resident guests behind it, the NACHUSA HOUSE is one of the old landmarks of the middle west.

Built in 1837, the hotel was remodeled in 1867 when the fourth story and mansard roof were added. By 1915 more rooms were needed and an annex to the south was built, which, in 1953 was again remodeled into a "Twentieth century" "In-town Motel"

Just a few of the names of famous guests who have signed the register are Abraham Lincoln, U. S. Grant, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Jefferson Davis, Medill McCormick, Robert LaFollette Sr., Stephen A. Douglas, Hoarce Greeley, Gen. George B. McClellan and many, many more.

It is the plan of the Nachusa Condo Corp. to sell as Condominiums the 52 apartments and separate room units, plus the entire bar, dining and kitchen areas to wealthy investors.

In our eyes the "NACHUSA HOUSE" is comparable to a Van-Gough or Picasso or other rare pieces of art. A "one of a kind".

It is highly likely that without the election of Ronald Reagan as President, this rare old masterpiece might have slipped into oblivion and been torn down and destroyed in our ever increasing great haste to tear down the old and build up anew.

JOHN L. SUTTER, CLU  
President  
Lincoln National Sales Corporation of Peoria

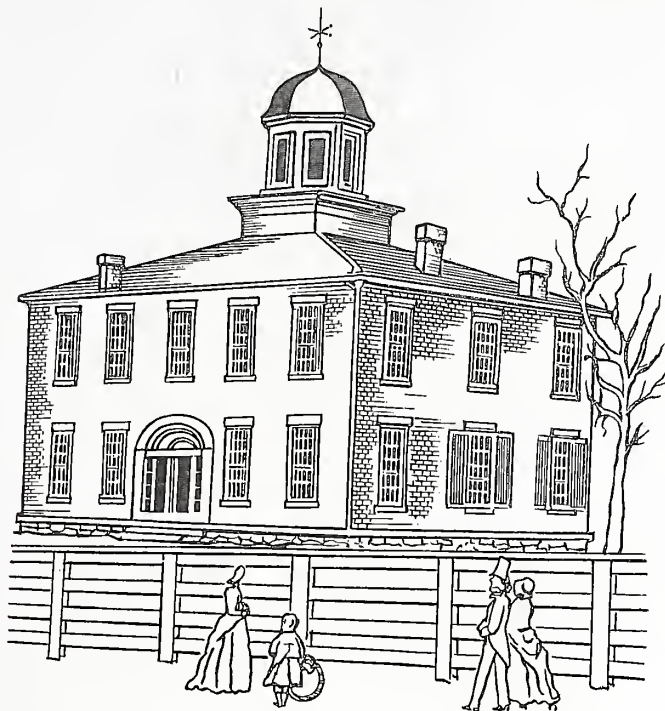


8th Floor / Peoria Savings Plaza  
331 Fulton Street  
Peoria / Illinois / 61602  
(309) 673-9161  
Res. 392-2069

Registered Representative  
The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company

Jay  
Hester

no me sent  
dep



Lee County Court House — 1840

The buildings were completed in 1840. Pending completion of the Court House, the April 1840 term of the Lee County Circuit Court was held in a school house located on the west side of Ottawa Street, near the alley, north of East Second Street. The main room in the building was 20 by 34 feet.

The 1840 Court House, as it was several times remodeled and enlarged, stood until March, 1900, when it was removed for construction of the present modern Court House, which cost for the general contract \$103,394.94 and for metal and wooden furniture, grading, street walls and sidewalks \$20,808.84. Total \$124,203.78.

Ogle County was organized in 1836. It included the territory of the present Lee County. Dixon was made the county seat of Ogle County. The first term of the Ogle County Circuit Court convened at Dixon October 2, 1837, in the James Wilson Blacksmith Shop. In August, 1838, the County Commissioners of Ogle County ordered that the Ogle County Court be held in the home of John Phelps in Oregon after the October term.

The territory to form Lee County was detached from Ogle County in 1839. Commissioners appointed by the Legislature designated Dixon as the county seat of Lee County. They reported that they "stuck the stake at the place where public buildings shall be erected", and that numerous citizens had signed bonds for money and for eighty acres of land donated to be sold, and that on the plat of the Town of Dixon, dated April 11, 1835, a block of land had been reserved for a "public square".

County Commissioners of Lee County were elected in August 1839. In December they obtained plans and specifications for a Court House of stone or brick and a Jail of stone and timber. Cyrus G. Miner was paid \$3.00 for drawing a plan of the Court House roof.

In January, 1840, bids were submitted and contracts executed. The Court House was built on the "public square" by Samuel M. Bowman

on his original bid	\$6800.00
change for brick construction	810.00

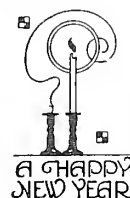
\$7610.00

Zenas Applington and G. G. Holbrook built the jail of hewed logs on a stone foundation for

\$1495.00

Total cost of Court House and Jail	\$9105.00
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The jail was built at the north-east corner of East Third and Ottawa, on "lot 22 Ottawa St." as it appears by the deed to the county.



GEORGE C. DIXON

724 INSTITUTE BOULEVARD

DIXON, ILLINOIS

THE COURT HOUSE FRONT DOOR IS  
WAS NORTH.

THE JULY 17, 1856 MEETING WAS ON  
THE EAST SIDE OF BUILDING.

